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# SOCIETY OF COLLEGE TEACHERS OF EDUCATION

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 1915, AT CINCINNATI

The Society met and rendered the two programs according to the printed announcements, President Charters presiding.

At the business meeting the nominating committee (Professors W. C. Ruediger, George M. Forbes, and E. L. Holton) made the following nominations for 1915-16: *President*: Director Charles H. Judd, University of Chicago; *Secretary-Treasurer*: Professor G. M. Wilson, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa; *Member of Executive Committee* (to succeed Professor Monroe): Dean James E. Russell, Teachers College, Columbia University.

The nominees were duly elected.

The secretary submitted the following financial report, which was adopted and ordered printed (date of report February 18):

### *Receipts:*

Cash on hand from accounting February, 1914 . . . . .	\$ 85.94	
Refund from University of Chicago Press on reprints not delivered in time . . . . .	5.75	
Collection of dues less exchange . . . . .	<u>321.33</u>	\$413.02

### *Expenditures:*

University of Chicago Press for subscriptions, year- books, and reprints . . . . .	\$297.95	
Secretary's expenses—		
Stamps . . . . .	\$16.00	
Clerical work . . . . .	14.65	
Printing . . . . .	19.50	
Redeeming check for overdraft later re- deemed by member . . . . .	2.00	
1914 luncheon charges . . . . .	7.30	
Telegrams . . . . .	<u>4.32</u>	<u>\$ 63.77</u>
		\$361.72
Cash on hand . . . . .		\$ 51.30
Outstanding dues probably all "good" . . . . .		<u>20.00</u>
Potential assets . . . . .		\$ 71.30

No outstanding bills known on that date.

The Committee on School Surveys submitted the following report:

*To the College Teachers of Education:*

Your Committee on School Surveys reports as follows:

*Inasmuch* as the practice of surveying, investigating, or experting schools and school systems is of but recent origin and the power for good or for harm which the surveyor wields is out of proportion to our present knowledge of generally accepted and universally recognized principles of education, this service unless professionally safeguarded is likely to proceed chaotically and to result in much damage to public education, and

*Inasmuch* as the first essential of such expert reporting on educational conditions and the formulation of plans for their betterment is that such work should be undertaken only by persons whose experience, training, and reliability of judgment, as shown by their past service, unmistakably qualify them for it, and

*Inasmuch* as a work which proposes to be scientific should proceed upon generally recognized principles and embody well-wrought and professionally approved plans and be as nearly impersonal in motives, procedure, and results as professional deliberation can make it, and

*Inasmuch* as there is much confusion in the minds of school authorities as to the nature of the service which such a survey of a school, or a school system, can render a community, and under what conditions it should be undertaken or not undertaken, and what safeguards should be required before undertaking it, and

*Inasmuch* as college departments of education are constantly required to spend much energy in giving advice and answering questions concerning school surveys, it has seemed to your committee that the need of the hour is to unify our efforts to be of service to the schools in this particular, and to endeavor to introduce a degree of scientific management into this field.

To that end we recommend first—

That the Association appoint a permanent Committee on School Surveys composed of nine members eminently qualified both by past experience and by present interest to assume responsibility for this work; that the term of office of members of this committee be such that three members shall be appointed each year, i.e., that the original number be nine, three to serve for three years, three for two years, and three for one year, and thereafter that the term of service be for three years; that geographical distribution of members be carefully considered in constituting the committee; that it be the first duty of this committee to prepare a brief statement of advice to school authorities and communities desiring information concerning school surveys, this statement of advice to contain a general statement of the plan of procedure to be followed in ordering such a survey to be made, the expense involved, what is undertaken by the surveyors, the steps to be taken by them, the standards to be used, and the use to be made of their report when made.

Said committee should also prepare a directory of organizations and of persons who, in its judgment, are qualified to perform such services, admission to this directory to be made by formal application and the submitting of evi-

dence acceptable to the committee of fitness to carry on such work, this directory to be a part of the statement of advice sent out to people who desire information concerning surveys.

As the members of this committee are to be geographically distributed, all requests for information, advice, and help concerning school surveys preferred to members of the College Teachers of Education from each of these geographical sections should be referred to the member of the committee representing that geographical section.

The committee should have power to make its own by-laws for the transaction of its business, but should submit them together with a detailed report of its proceedings each year to the College Teachers of Education for approval. In this way a part of its work could by it be delegated to subcommittees of its members, as, for example, the responsibility to be assumed by individual members in answering requests for advice and help coming from their own territory. The committee as a whole should also hold itself ready to re-examine, reinvestigate, and report upon all cases which are submitted to it on appeal either by school authorities who desire formally to protest to it against the findings of an investigation and ask for such reinvestigation, or by an investigator who may be driven to appeal to it for a review of charges made against his report, the expense of such reinvestigation in every case to be borne by the party who appeals to the committee.

It should also be the duty of this committee to prepare and submit to the College Teachers of Education at its annual meeting each year a critical estimate or review of each of the educational surveys reported during the preceding year.

In these ways it is proposed that the College Teachers of Education take steps to establish a clearing-house to do what it can to unify the work of school experting. As this is a form of professional service, the expense of performing it should be provided by the committee, either by its members assessing themselves or procuring contributions or endowments to maintain it.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) ERNEST C. MOORE, *Chairman*

Professor G. M. Wilson, of Iowa State College, moved the adoption of the report and authorization of the committee suggested, and received a second.

Professor F. H. Swift, of the University of Minnesota, asked where any members could get either time or money to serve on such a committee.

Professor A. S. Olin, of the University of Kansas, thought the Society would assume too much jurisdiction by passing such a motion, and suggested that the matter should be referred to the National Council of Education. This view was concurred in by Professor W. P. Burris, of the University of Cincinnati, and Professor E. C. Elliott, of the University of Wisconsin. Professor Paul

Monroe, of Teachers College, thought the Society should not undertake to survey schools authoritatively until it had first solved its own problems.

The report was then referred to the meeting for next year, on motion of Professor Olin, seconded by Professor Black, of Indiana University.

The committee, on motion of Professor Monroe, was requested to furnish for next year a formulation of the principles which should underlie the making of school surveys and to make a "survey of surveys" for the current year.

On motion of Professor Harlan Updegraff, of the University of Pennsylvania, it was decided to appoint a committee to study and formulate guiding principles and standards in regard to the requirements of teachers' state certificates based on graduation from colleges and universities. It was expressly understood that this committee should work from the viewpoint of the institutions represented in the Society, and that any recommendations to be made by it to the country at large should first be brought to the Society for approval.

Professor A. J. Inglis, of Harvard University, submitted a request from about fifty members of the Society that the 1916 program include a report of a committee on methods of affording practice teaching for prospective secondary-school teachers. On motion of Professor W. C. Ruediger, of George Washington University, the request was referred as a suggestion to the Executive Committee.

Professor E. E. Rall, of the University of Tennessee, suggested that the Society take steps to authorize the establishment of a section, or possibly a new society, where the membership would be by *institutions*, and not by individuals. He stated that many departments of education would be greatly helped if they could point to any recommendations as coming from institutions, members of a society. The matter was referred to the Executive Committee.

Secretary Springer, of the National Education Association, gave the Society an urgent invitation to hold a special meeting at Oakland in August of this year. On motion of Professor Olin, the matter was referred to the Executive Committee after a show of

hands indicated that only six members present thought they would go to California for such a meeting.

On motion of Professor F. E. Thompson, of the University of Colorado, the report of the Committee on Rating, Placing, and Promotion of Teachers, as printed in the yearbook, was adopted and the committee discharged. On motion of Professor W. C. Bagley, of the University of Illinois, the committee mentioned in this committee's report was authorized.

On motion of Professor Bagley, the Society authorized the establishment of a committee on terminology, to be composed of six members representing respectively the fields of administration; psychology, hygiene, and tests; secondary education; elementary education; the technique of teaching and general educational theory. Each member was to be made chairman of a subcommittee to be appointed by himself and not necessarily limited to members of this Society.

On motion of Professor Elliott the committee was requested to make a report as part of the program two years hence.

There being no further business, the Society adjourned.

CARTER ALEXANDER, *Secretary*

NOTE.—All future communications regarding the College Teachers of Education should be addressed to the new secretary, G. M. Wilson, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

### CORRECTIONS IN MEMBERSHIP LIST

(Received too late for February *School Review*)

H. W. Josselyn is this year doing special research work with the Carnegie Foundation.

H. L. Miller is assistant professor of education and principal of the Wisconsin High School, University of Wisconsin.

Professor K. M. Kieran is at Hunter College, New York.

W. S. Thomas is assistant professor of education and examiner of schools, University of California.

D. W. Henry is professor of education, Toledo University.

H. H. Foster is professor of education, Ottawa University, Ottawa, Kansas.

Elmer E. Jones is head of the department of education, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

Alexander J. Inglis is assistant professor of education at Harvard University.